(c) and (d) The Planning Commission estimates the percentage and number of persons living below the poverty line at national and State level in rural and urban areas from the large sample survey on household consumer expenditure conducted by the National Sample Survey Organization (NSSO) at an interval of approximately five years and an exogenously defined poverty line. The State-specific rural poverty lines are updated using State-specific Consumer Price Index of Agricultural Labourers (CPIAL) and the State-specific urban poverty lines are updated using the State-specific Consumer Price Index of Industrial Workers (CPIIW) following the methodology contained in the Report of the Expert Group of Estimation of Proportion and Number of Poor.

(e) Does not arise.

Food security authority

813. SHRI T.T.V. DHINAKARAN: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is proposed to set up Food Security Authority to ensure availability of food to all and other matters;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (DR. AKHILESH PRASAD SINGH): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Question does not arise.

(c) The required system of governance already in place is adequate to address the issues of Food Security.

Allocation of rice to Andhra Pradesh under TPDS

814. SHRI M.V. MYSURA REDDY: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) the total quantity of rice allocated and lifted by the State of Andhra Pradesh under Targeted Public Distribution System (TPDS) in the last five years, year-wise;

(b) whether it is a fact that last year the allocation of rice to State has been reduced by 5,37,060 MT;

(c) if so, the reasons therefor;

(d) whether any request has been made by the Government of Andhra Pradesh for restoration of the above quantity of rice; and

(e) if so, the details of the action Government has taken on this request?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (DR. AKHILESH PRASAD SINGH): (a) to (c) Details on the quantities of rice allocated to Andhra Pradesh and its offtake by the State Government during the last 5 years are given in the Statement (*See* below). The allocation of foodgrains including rice under Targeted Public